

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification by inserting the following paragraph before the first full paragraph (at line 5 of page 1):

--RELATED APPLICATION INFORMATION

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/577,511, filed May 24, 2000, which claims foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119 of Japanese Patent Application No. 11-145116, filed May 25, 1999; Japanese Patent Application No. 11-152162, filed May 31, 1999; Japanese Patent Application No. 11-204600, filed July 19, 1999 and Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-061221, filed March 6, 2000, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.--.